

# The Colored American

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A National Negro Newspaper

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Subscriptions may be sent by post office money order, express or registered letter. All communications for publication should be accompanied with the name of the writer not necessarily for publication but as a guarantee of good faith.

We solicit news, contributions, opinions and in fact all matters affecting the race. We will not pay for matter, however unless it is ordered by us. All matter intended for publication must reach this office by Wednesday of each week to insure insertion in the current issue.

Agents are wanted everywhere. Send for instructions.

## ADVERTISING RATES.

Reading notices 50 cents per line. Display advertisements, \$2 per square inch per insertion. Discounts made on large contracts. Entered at the Post-office as second-class matter. All letters, communications, and business matters should be addressed to

**THE COLORED AMERICAN,**  
**EDWARD E. COOPER, MANAGER**  
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SATURDAY, APRIL 4 1903.

## THE ELEVENTH MILESTONE.

On the first day of April, eleven years ago, The Colored American launched its bark upon the treacherous waters of Washington journalism. Its projectors had seen many newspapers begun under most auspicious conditions and with the highest aims, attempt the shifting currents of popular favor in this community only to strike upon the rocks of adversity, and of the people's neglect or indifference, and disappear and leave no sign. So it was not without misgivings that we made our venture. The struggle for success has been an arduous one. In the early days of the paper's existence, grim despair sat brooding, many times our close neighbor. Expedients more or less unworthy have been suggested to us by which to produce an apparent but unreal and specious prosperity, but we have disdained them, preferring even to fail with self-respect than prosper through meretricious methods.

The rewards of right thinking and right living are not all locked up in the eternity of the blessed. Earth herself hath her laurels for the brow of the elect and so it has come to pass that the pace we have set for our contemporaries, the exalted plane of journalism, the broad, comprehensive lines upon which we have built our substructure, have met their reward in that wide-spread appreciation, that potential, dominating influence which our readers, without regard to race, enthusiastically accord to us, and which our compeers reluctantly concede to us.

The Colored American is alive to the hearty sympathy with every impulse for the city's advancement, yet it is vigilant in the defense of our people here, when discrimination is attempted or there is an apparent disposition to ignore or minimize our proper weight in the equation of civil polity, but it has sedulously aimed to occupy a broader field, to be, as it were, a watch on the tower whose perspective is the national panorama. It is in touch with the aspirations of

the race whether within our gates or scattered abroad. It finds its way and its opinions are quoted in the capitals of the old world, and in the islands of the western seas. The Negro of Cuba subscribes for it, and the sturdy black soldiers serving his country in the Philippine Islands, is prompt to make complaint if a single number fails to reach him.

Many men have wished to live their lives over again, but the aspiration is ever vain. There was but one Tele-machus who had a Mentor, and the son of Ulysses was not another Faust either, and all three were but the figments of a pipe dream. As we look back over the years of our patient and oft pathetic struggle, we are comforted by finding little to regret. It would seem that some wise and indulgent Beneficence has ever been at our side as guide, philosopher and friend.

It is but seemly as it is most grateful to The Colored American, that it take this occasion to record its deep sensibility and profound obligation to its varied and extensive clientele for the unswerving and loyal support which it has received. That is our guerdon. That is the inspiration for further effort. The Colored American will not lower its standards. It will not cater to envy, malice or other uncharitableness. It will seek out and it will point out the excellencies and the achievements of our people, leaving the work of detraction to the lower and the sordid souls who see in a newspaper merely a vehicle for the exploitation of personal grievances or for the villification of superior people.

Colored men in the professions and in journalism cannot reach the goal of success until colored people have developed business men.

## THE PRESIDENT OF ALL THE PEOPLE.

It may be truthfully said of Theodore Roosevelt that he is the President of all the people, and that he does his level best to safeguard every legitimate interest in America. He is not swayed by any clique, nor is he controlled by any ring in or out of politics. His acts are free, and are governed by an enlightened understanding. He has the courage of his convictions, and he dares to do the right "as God gives him to see the right." The United States have long needed such a President, and the people rejoice that such a man has at last been found. He is now speeding on his way westward, and the demonstrations given him at the various stopping places are the spontaneous outpourings of the hearts of the people who love the man because there is goodness and righteousness found in him.

Every puff of the engine that pulls his train across the continent proclaims the fact that so far as it lies within the power of Theodore Roosevelt the "door of hope" will be kept wide open to every American citizen whether he be black or white, rich or poor, and so far as he is concerned, all will be given an equal chance in the race of life. The Colored American wishes the President a pleasant journey and a safe return to the national capital.

The editor, who doesn't know the difference between an editorial opinion and a local paragraph is thick headed, to say the least.

## A GRATEFUL TRIBUTE.

Preparations are being made by the substantial colored business men of New York city, to honor Dr. Booker T. Washington by a public dinner, at Carnegie Hall, in that city, on the 15th instant. These New York gentlemen are broad-gauged and enterprising. Their contact with the breezy, broadening influences of metropolitan life has given them the larger view of the impulses which control and actuate our thinking men. They comprehend their leader, Booker T. Washington. Our admiration for Dr. Washington does not cloud our judgment. If Tuskegee had never materialized, if the great good which it is performing for the colored people of the South had never been inaugurated, there would still stand to his credit the thought and accomplishment of the

National Negro Business League, and of all the inspiring and helpful influences which it has exerted and will continue to exert. It has quickened every race enterprise and it has preached the gospel of reciprocal business support with telling effect. These good people of New York are building, perhaps, more wisely than they know. Their appreciation of the Wizard's work will be far-reaching, and northern colored men will themselves be the beneficiaries.

The real leader does not have to declare himself. The people have a way of finding out and selecting the right men for leaders.

When the Negro learns to operate his stores, insurance companies, banks, street railways, and corporations of all kinds, the so-called problem will be nearer solution. The colored people of Washington, nearly 100,000 in number, who boast of their intelligence and wealth have a magnificent opportunity to show what they can do along business lines. Where are your clothing stores, dry goods stores and banks? The Jews and Gentiles have all the business and can get all of the Negroes' money, and yet will not employ a young colored man or a young colored woman in any capacity, except as menial. Here is a good text for the preachers and for the leaders.

The man who throws a stone at every dog he sees will be kept busy picking up stones.

A number of prominent colored men have been slated for good positions in the department of Commerce and Labor.

Experience is a great teacher, but it has failed to teach some of the brethren that no one ever gets rich playing the races.

The Colored American is eleven years old with this issue, and has maintained its place from the very beginning, in the front rank of race newspapers.

The city and township elections in the western states are coming to a close, much to the regret of local politicians and the campaign sheet; both of which are thriving and fattening on the gullibility of the candidates.

The colored business men of this city are arranging for a mammoth meeting and reception to Dr. Booker T. Washington at an early date. Many local branches of the National Negro Business League are also being established.

The New Age of Portland Ore., is doing yeoman service for the race on the Pacific slope. Those republicans who vote against colored men simply because they are colored will have to meet The New Age at the cross roads when election time comes around.

The colored people are beginning to appreciate the value of the example and influence of General Grant to their cause, and preparations are being made to celebrate, in becoming style, at the John Wesley Church, in this city, his birthday which occurs on April 27th.

The words of Archbishop John Ireland have the ring of true Christianity about them. Christ came to help the needy, and to lift up the poor and the oppressed. We welcome help from every source, and we thank every man who says a word for our cause in a crisis like this.

Discrimination in the various departments of the government in this city is very keen and bitter against colored people. In some of the departments a promotion rarely or never comes to colored employees. Some of the so-called leaders who are so busily engaged in fighting each other, might devote their energies in battle against the common enemy.

## HE DRAWS THE COLOR LINE.

The white merchants, of Washington, have always been indifferent in their treatment of their colored pa-

trons. They do not advertise in colored newspapers, with few exceptions, nor do they employ colored people except in the most menial capacities. They do not have to, the Negro is so indifferent to his own interest, that like the dumb driven cattle, or the blind Sampson, they move about and spend their money without the discretion of the water fowl, which Tennyson has so beautifully portrayed. The Topham Trunk Co., doing business at 1235 Pa. Ave., N. W., has inaugurated a voting contest in the Washington Post, for a trunk, or a valise, to the most popular Cadet. It has been gleamed from Mr. Topham himself, that colored Cadets are not to be considered in this voting contest. Just why, we don't know. The colored people are Americans in all their ideas, interests and purposes. They do not believe in boycotting because it is un-American; and yet every colored school teacher, every colored person in the departments and every Negro who has one grain of moral stamina in his craw should refuse to patronize a firm, which discriminates against his race and which openly publishes the same in a daily newspaper. The Negro, who goes into Mr. Topham's store to make a purchase, has neither race pride or self-respect. Stay away. Bah!

## LAWYER HAYES SPEAKS.

The Yorkerites Give The Virginian a Rousing Meeting and a Good Collection.

Yonkers, N. Y., Special.—The semi-annual election of officers of the A. M. E. Zion Lyceum took place last Wednesday night. President, John E. Bruce; Vice President, Mrs. Blanche Scott; Secretary, Miss Lulu Jones; Asst. Secretary, Miss Estelle Williams; Treasurer, Mr. Albert Skinner; Chaplain, Mr. Matthew Overton; Sergeant-at-Arms, Mr. Geo. Chambers; editor of the Lyceum Journal, Mrs. J. W. Spennie.

Yonkers Fountain, No. 1021 U. O. T. R., celebrated its fifth anniversary, Tuesday evening, March 24th, at McCann's Hall, with a musical and literary programme, which was enjoyed by a large and appreciative audience. Mr. J. R. Green was master of ceremonies.

A mass meeting was held at McCann's Hall, North Broadway, Wednesday evening, March 25th, for the purpose of protesting against the disfranchisement laws of the state of Virginia. Rev. H. Arthur Booker of the Messiah Baptist Church, was chairman of the meeting. Prominent among the speakers were Lawyer J. H. Hays, Mr. M. Walsh, mayor of the city, and Rt. Rev. W. B. Derrick, of Flushing, L. I. The choirs of the A. M. E. Zion and Messiah Baptist Churches furnished the music. There was a large gathering of people who thoroughly enjoyed the meeting.

Mrs. Wm. H. Daggs, of Hampton, Va., is the guest of her sister, Mrs. Chas. E. Conick, 14 Lamertine avenue.

Rt. Rev. J. W. Hood, made his annual visit to the A. M. E. Zion Church Sunday, March 2th. On Monday evening there will be given a reception in his honor by the Ladies' Aid Society.

Mrs. A. G. Thomas who has spent several months with her daughter, Mrs. R. H. Brown, left for her home in Hampton, Va., Saturday, much to the regret of her many friends in Yonkers.

The funeral of Mrs. M. A. Johnson who died suddenly last Friday, was held from the A. M. E. Zion Church, Sunday afternoon, at 2 p. m. It was largely attended. She leaves two sisters, Mrs. John Oliver and Mrs. Sarah Oliver, and a host of relatives and friends to mourn her loss. Rev. J. T. Gaskill preached the funeral sermon.

Mrs. J. T. Gaskill who has been quite ill with the la grippe is very much better at this writing.

The Jordon Crudup Association, of which Mr. John B. Jones is President, will give a musical entertainment at McCann's Hall, April 14th, which promises to be one of the events of the season. A feature of the entertainment will be "a grand cake walk." The orchestra will be under the direction of Mr. Jordon Crudup and will consist of all the popular and up-to-date dance music.

BROWN GRIT, JR.